

CHAPTER 42  
RURAL RESOURCE COORDINATION PROGRAMS  
FOR FIRE SERVICES

**261—42.1(78GA,SF2428,SF2453) Purpose.** This chapter includes provisions for two programs: Response 2020 and dry hydrant grant program. The purpose of Response 2020 is to assist fire and emergency response departments in the planning, assessment and evaluation of local emergency response services and to support systems to improve service delivery through financial and technical assistance. During fiscal year 2001, up to \$200,000 of funding is available to support rural dry hydrant demonstration projects across the state.

**261—42.2(78GA,SF2428,SF2453) Program eligibility.** Cities, counties, and councils of government may apply on behalf of fire and emergency response departments for these funds. Resource conservation and development councils may apply for dry hydrant funds only. Requests for funding under the dry hydrant program must be made by a consortium of fire departments in order to be considered.

**261—42.3(78GA,SF2428,SF2453) Award limits.**

**42.3(1)** For Response 2020 projects, the maximum grant award shall not exceed \$15,000 over a period not to exceed one year.

**42.3(2)** For the dry hydrant grant program, the maximum grant award shall be \$15,000 per each applicant region. A maximum of \$2,500 per dry hydrant may be requested.

*a.* The award amount for dry hydrant projects shall be used for the following activities including, but not limited to: approved training and education in site selection, hydrant location and water acquisition; and the proper use, installation and maintenance of the hydrants.

*b.* Fire departments requesting funding must obtain a certification of training in dry hydrants from the State of Iowa Community Fire Service Institute or another approved training entity. The review committee established in rule 42.6(78GA,SF2428,SF2453) must approve any training entity other than the State of Iowa Community Fire Service Institute proposed for use under this program.

**42.3(3)** All applicants must provide 25 percent match for the project. Match may be cash, in-kind services or a combination of the two.

**261—42.4(78GA,SF2428,SF2453) Eligible uses of funds.**

**42.4(1)** Eligible uses of funds for the Response 2020 program include, but are not limited to:

- a.* Procurement of consultants to assist in planning and assessment.
- b.* Payment for the costs associated with technical assistance.
- c.* Purchase of materials necessary to complete an eligible project.

**42.4(2)** Dry hydrant grant program. Eligible uses of funds for the dry hydrant grant program include: purchase of dry hydrant equipment, installation, training and education on the use of dry hydrants.

**261—42.5(78GA,SF2428,SF2453) Application procedures.** Applications will be requested at least annually on a date to be determined by the Iowa department of economic development based on availability of funds. Applications must be submitted on forms prescribed by and available from the Iowa department of economic development. Forms may be obtained by contacting the Iowa Department of Economic Development, Division of Community and Rural Development, 200 East Grand, Des Moines, Iowa 50309, or by calling (515)242-4711.

**42.5(1)** Application contents shall include, but are not limited to: summary of project, description of geographic area served, information about each service included in the project area, financial information (such as organization budget, tax levies, volunteer staff, and paid personnel).

**42.5(2)** Application materials must be postmarked by midnight on the established due date. No faxed materials will be accepted.

**261—42.6(78GA,SF2428,SF2453) Application review.** Applications will be reviewed by a team of no fewer than five members selected from the following organizations: Iowa department of economic development, Iowa Fireman's Association, state fire marshal, Iowa Fire Chiefs Association, Iowa State University Extension, Iowa League of Cities, Iowa Association of Counties, Institute of Public Affairs—University of Iowa, Iowa department of public health.

**42.6(1) Scoring criteria for proposals.** Applications will be ranked on the following criteria:

- a. Demonstrated need in a given area. Identify proposed service area and show that the area is serviceable by the departments in the area - 125 points possible.
- b. Evidence of cooperation and collaboration among neighboring departments - 125 points possible.
- c. Evidence of local financial and volunteer commitment to the project - 50 points possible.
- d. Evidence of capacity of applicant to implement any resulting action plan - 100 points possible.
- e. Completeness of application with all necessary attachments included - 50 points possible.

**42.6(2) Additional information needed for dry hydrant grant program.** Before an application under the dry hydrant grant program will be reviewed and scored using the criteria in subrule 42.6(1), the following threshold requirements shall be met:

- a. Identification of proposed service area and evidence that it is serviceable by applicant organizations.
- b. Evidence of availability of suitable, accessible water source in proposed project area.
- c. Demonstrated cooperation and participation among applicant departments and other affected entities within the project area.

**261—42.7(78GA,SF2428,SF2453) Disbursement of funds.** Upon the execution of a contract between the award recipient and the Iowa department of economic development, recipients may request funds on a reimbursement basis for funds awarded under the Response 2020 program. For funds awarded to dry hydrant projects, 50 percent of the funds may be paid in advance of completed work activities subject to approval by the department of revenue and finance. Remaining funds will be paid by the Iowa department of economic development upon receipt of the following: certification of training, proof of installation, and submission of a work plan to maintain the dry hydrants.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code section 15.108(30) and 2000 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2453, section 4, subsection 3, and 2000 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2428, section 1, subsection 3, paragraph "c."

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